Presseinformation
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oe-a Organic Electronics Association

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From Lab to Fab – Further Growth in Organic and Printed Electronics

Upward trend of the organic and printed electronics industry continues - New case studies by the OE-A show broad spectrum of examples for market applications - OE-A sponsors creative competition to advance young researchers.

Frankfurt/Germany, June 1, 2010 – The organic and printed electronics industry continues to grow. Numerous companies have started production. Especially the use of technologies capable of mass-production, such as printing technologies, opens new markets for thin, light-weight, flexible electronics.
LOPE-C 2010 (the Large-area, Organic and Printed Electronics Convention), a trade fair and conference hosted by the OE-A, boasts an increase of greater than 50 percent in exhibitors.

Wolfgang Mildner, Chairman of the OE-A and Managing Director of PolyIC GmbH & Co. KG: "The investments of the last several years have paid off. Many companies were able to open new markets for themselves and to translate the results of their lab research into production. For example, the areas of organic solar cells or lighting are profiting from the trend moving towards 'Green Technology' and are creating great interest at end-user companies. Other areas, such as printed batteries, displays, sensors or electronic memory chips, are also already in production, and the future projections are positive. These are important milestones for the

industry, but intensive research and development continue to remain essential.“

OE-A Case Studies Show Spectrum of the Industry

A series of companies have already established themselves in all aspects of the value chain of organic and printed electronics, ranging from materials and equipment to end-users. This is impressively exemplified in a collection of more than 20 case studies that the OE-A debuted on Tuesday on the occasion of a press conference at the opening of LOPE-C. These case studies show current examples of product launches. The development and marketing of new products is based on a broad spectrum of suppliers and material producers. Great progress in material development and production processes leads to a number of innovative uses, such as luminescent packaging, flexible displays and solar cells, printed RFID-tags or stylishly illuminated bar stools, just to name a few.

OE-A Toolbox for Creative Competition

Wolfgang Mildner also sees the reason for the growing success of the industry in the innovative ideas of the developers: "The prerequisites for developing new applications have never been better. Materials and production processes have made great progress. That is also why the OE-A is putting great emphasis on research and on promoting young scientists."

With the 'OE-A Competition for Multifunctional Demonstrators based on Organic and Printed Electronics', the OE-A is kicking off an international competition for the most innovative application. To this end, the OE-A and 15 partner companies have assembled a special toolbox. It contains more than 20 components and building blocks, such as printed batteries, OLEDs, organic solar cells, pressure sensors, strain gauges, various displays or electronic memories for creative design and concrete application of new prototypes. Teams of university students are eligible to participate. The first phase of the competition including concept development will run through October 31, 2010. The best products will be

presented to a large audience of industry experts at LOPE-C 2011 in late June of next year. Additional information and eligibility rules can be found at www.oe-a.org.

Photo: „OE-A Toolbox“ with more than 20 different components from printed memories to a flexible solar cell (Photo: OE-A).

OE-A Bundles Common Strategies

The organic and printed electronics industry depends on strong cooperation. The OE-A, globally encompassing more than 140 members from 21 countries, has experienced approximately 25 percent growth over the past twelve months. This proves that more and more companies are increasingly starting production and gaining profitability in addition to their continued, intense development initiatives.

The OE-A will show additional applications at LOPE-C. A luminescent flag and a game with interactive playing cards incorporating printed electronics are fascinating new examples of promising future products.

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For photographic material visit: www.oe-a.org

About the **OE-A:**
The OE-A (Organic Electronics Association) is a working group within the German Engineering Federation (VDMA) and was founded in December 2004. The OE-A is the leading international industry association for organic and printed electronics and represents the entire value chain of this emerging industry. Our members are world-class global companies and institutions, ranging from R&D institutes, component and material suppliers to producers and end-users. More than 140 companies from Europe, North America, Asia and Australia are working together to promote the establishment of a competitive production infrastructure for organic electronics. The vision of the OE-A is to build a bridge between science, technology and application. More than 3,000 member companies from the engineering industry make VDMA the largest industry association in Europe.

The OE-A is the host of the premier international conference and exhibition, LOPE-C – the Large-area, Organic and Printed Electronics Convention, which addresses end-users, manufacturers, investors, engineers, and scientists. LOPE-C 2011 will take place from June 28th to 30th, 2011 at the Messe Frankfurt.

Additional information at: **www.oe-a.org** and **www.lope-c.com**